

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough examination of the present application. The independent claims have been amended to more clearly define the present invention over the cited prior art references. The patentability of the claims is discussed in detail below.

The Examiner is also thanked for the courtesies extended during the telephonic interview of June 13, 2007. During the interview proposed amendments to the independent claims were discussed. The Examiner agreed that such amendments would define over the prior art of record. Accordingly, amendments similar to those discussed in the interview are being made to the independent claims. Support for those amendments is found in paragraphs 0113 through 0115 of the current application, for example. No new matter has been added.

I. The Claimed Invention

The invention is directed to a communications system. Amended independent Claim 1, for example, recites a communications system including a plurality of data storage devices storing data based upon at least one of a plurality of different operating protocols. The communications system further includes a plurality of mobile wireless communications devices each accessing the data storage devices based upon at least one of a plurality of different operating protocols. Amended independent Claim 1 also recites a protocol interface device. The protocol interface device includes a front-end proxy module communicating with the plurality of wireless communications devices based on respective operating protocols. A protocol engine module communicates with the

front-end proxy module. A respective interface connector module translates communications between the protocol engine module and the plurality of data storage devices for each of the different operating protocols.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to further recite a data store for storing supported operating protocols for each of the data storage devices and protocol ranking metrics for the operating protocols is also included in the protocol interface device. Claim 1 has also been amended to further recite the protocol engine module cooperating with the data store for selecting a supported operating for accessing each of said data storage devices based upon the protocol capability ranking metrics.

Independent Claims 10 and 15 have also been amended similar to Claim 1 and are directed toward the protocol interface device of Claim 1. Independent Claim 20 has been amended similar to Claim 1 and is directed toward a related method, and independent Claim 25 is directed toward a related computer-readable medium, and has also been amended similar to Claim 1.

II. The Claims Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 10, 15, 20 and 25 over U.S. Patent No. 6,615,212 to Dutta et al. in view of U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2003/0231207 to Huang.

Dutta et al. is directed to system for providing content from a distributed database to a client. A transcoding proxy server receives a request for content from a client machine. The transcoding proxy server retrieves the content from an originating server. The retrieved content is provided in a first format type. In response to a determination that an

increase in efficiency would be obtained by allowing the client to process the content in the first format type prior to transcoding the content into a second format type, the transcoding proxy server sends the content to the client in the first format type. Furthermore, in response to a determination that the client does not have content processing software for processing the content in the first format, the transcoding proxy server sends content processing software for the first format type along with the content in the first format type to the client. The transcoding proxy server then transcodes the content from the first format type into the second format type and sends the content in the second format to the client. See, e.g., col. 2, lines 39-57 of Dutta et al.

As properly recognized by the Examiner during the interview, Dutta et al. fails to teach or fairly suggest a data store for storing supported operating protocols for each of the data storage devices and protocol ranking metrics for the operating protocols as recited in the amended independent claims. Similarly, the Examiner also properly recognized that Dutta et al. also fails to teach or fairly suggest the protocol engine module cooperating with the data store for selecting a supported operating for accessing each of the data storage devices based upon the protocol capability ranking metrics also as recited in the amended independent claims. The cited Huang published application, like the other prior art of record, fails to teach or suggest these recitations of the amended independent claims.

Accordingly, it is submitted the independent Claims 1, 10, 15, 20, and 25 are patentable over prior art. In view of the patentability of the independent claims, it is submitted that their dependent claims, which recite yet

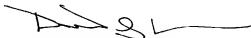
In re Patent Application of:
CLARKE ET AL.
Serial No. 10/777,959
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further distinguishing features, are also patentable. These dependent claims require no further discussion herein.

III. Conclusion

In view of the arguments submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. If the Examiner determines that any remaining informalities exist, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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